

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Tweedy

SUBJECT : Request for CIA Participation in CIRIS for Calendar Year 1972

1. Attached is my proposed draft of a memorandum from you to Mr. Colby, requesting CIA data submissions for this year's CIRIS.

2. Chuck Briggs has read this draft and I understand it is agreeable to him. We have signed a working level agreement between IC/DSG and OPPB to identify specific procedures for a number of operating details involved in this data call.

3. I anticipate only one other possible issue on this data call. Since it deals with policy, Chuck Briggs has not taken a position, but he thinks this might be raised by Mr. Colby.


a. This involves whether DCI/IC requires data submissions from some 36 principal entities from the Agency's Operating Components, or whether we could do with 5 Directorate-level amalgamated submissions.

b. I feel strongly that we do require the 36 individual submissions, following the pattern of prior years. No additional work is involved for the Agency. I have prepared a memorandum for you (attached) to serve as a briefing and talking paper in case this issue should be raised.

4. I hope we can get Mr. Colby to agree to let OPPB move ahead rapidly on this matter. We need rather prompt action if we are to have the possibility of having these data available for possible use in developing the NIPM.

5. I will be standing by in case you wish to discuss this further.

Enclosures

  
Chief, IC/DSG

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IC-72-0543a

7 July 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR : Mr. Tweedy

SUBJECT : DCI/IC/DSG Rationale for Proposed List of CIA Reporting Entities for CIRIS in Calendar Year 1972

1. The IC/DSG draft of a proposed call on CIA for CIRIS submissions this year identifies 36 principal entities from the Operating Components of the Agency from which we desire individual data submissions. These include the principal organizational components of the DDI, DDS&T, DDS and DCI areas. A single, consolidated submission is requested to cover all of the DDP area (excluding Covert Action resources which have always been omitted from the community data system).

2. An alternative has been noted informally by representatives of OPFB: CIRIS submissions could be provided on a consolidated basis from each Directorate and the DCI area. This would involve making five submissions to IC/DSG rather than 36. However, this would not result in any less work for Agency components or OPFB to prepare the submissions. This alternative has been mentioned by OPFB merely to point out that Mr. Colby could raise the question as to why Directorate level consolidated submissions would not be adequate for DCI/IC purposes.

3. This memorandum explains why we believe that the alternative would be thoroughly unsatisfactory, and would represent a step backward in the effort to develop and improve an organized community data system. Our reasoning is as follows:

a. Data submissions relating resources to intelligence functions and targets should be prepared by the components themselves. Operating components are not satisfied with the accuracy and significance of data that purport to describe their work but that are prepared outside the component itself. This is because some judgmental decisions are required. In the initial TOD/CIRIS exercise in 1968, OPFB provided the entire targeting of CIA components' resources. The results were unsatisfactory, and, by general agreement in each of the past three years, individual components have prepared their own submissions in conjunction with Directorate planning officers.

b. Amalgamation by OPFB of individual component submissions, in order to forward to DCI/IC consolidated Directorate submissions, represents an unnecessary and unproductive task. The CIRIS computer programs already in existence can produce Directorate level amalgamations from individual component submissions without requiring any OPFB manpower effort. Since such an alternative would deprive DCI/IC of an important level of detailed information, it would seem to be explainable only on some sort of security grounds. As between CIA and DCI/IC, this would seem a dubious justification, as the next paragraph indicates.

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for CIRIS in Calendar Year 1972

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c. CIA internal information has been adequately safeguarded by DCI/IC/DSG. The DCI/IC community data mechanism has been operated for the past five years under strict instructions from the DCI to D/DCI/IC, whereby no CIA data reported to CIRIS may be made available to third agencies or other outsiders. Any such requests are channeled to D/DCI/IC for appropriate handling on a case by case basis. These security arrangements have operated effectively and without incident throughout the past five years.

d. Data directly applicable to an individual operating component are considerably more meaningful for DCI/IC uses than statistics submitted at a higher level of aggregation. Accurate, direct interpretation of the information is facilitated when one is aware of which component the figures precisely describe. Apparent peculiarities can be identified more easily and ambiguities can be isolated and resolved more promptly. Feed-back of guidance and assistance to operating level inputters is possible as part of data system improvement.

e. DCI Credibility in the Community is also at stake. CIRIS submissions are being required from the principal individual units, activities, stations, etc. in each of the Defense intelligence programs. This amounts to over 500 entities. We have continuing difficulty in obtaining Defense cooperation to carry out the DCI's community responsibilities. CIRIS reporting by CIA, if limited to some 5 highly aggregated submissions, would be taken by Defense as justification for cutting back its own reporting, and could set a precedent for significantly limiting future Defense contributions to the community data system. Since we are engaging in continuing discussions with ASD(I) staff to justify and to regularize DCI/IC data inputs from Defense (e.g., the Showers committee), it would not be possible to avoid explanation of the extent of CIA participation in the community data system. The question is sure to be asked.

5. A list of the 36 proposed CIA Reporting Entities for this year's CIRIS is attached. These same entities, with very minor changes, have been reporting to TOD/CIRIS for the past five years. In that period, the only significant change in entities has been the decision, taken last year, to amalgamate all of the DDP components into a single submission; previously the DDP area divisions had reported individually. We did not favor that change, but did not believe we were in a position to make a major issue of it.

6. In contrast to the DDP decision of last year, however, if a proposal were now to be seriously advanced to amalgamate DDI, DDS&T, DDS and DCI components into one submission for each, we believe that the significance and interpretability of the data would be seriously impaired. We would urge D/DCI/IC to make strenuous efforts to avoid such a possibility.

Enclosure: CIRIS Reporting Entities

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Chief, IC/DSG

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